



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/911,697	07/25/2001	Shinichiro Uemura	DP-777 US	3987
466	7590	12/21/2004	EXAMINER	
YOUNG & THOMPSON 745 SOUTH 23RD STREET 2ND FLOOR ARLINGTON, VA 22202			KHUONG, LEE T	
		ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER	
			2665	

DATE MAILED: 12/21/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	09/911,697	UEMURA, SHINICHIRO
	Examiner Lee Khuong	Art Unit 2665

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 25 July 2001.
 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) Claim(s) 1-32 is/are pending in the application.
 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
 6) Claim(s) 1-32 is/are rejected.
 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
 10) The drawing(s) filed on 07/25/01 is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)	4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)	Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>07/25/01</u>	5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
	6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Drawings

1. The drawings are objected to because comprehensive legends are needed for Fig. 1, Fig. 3, Fig. 4, Fig. 5, Fig. 8, Fig. 9. Corrected drawing sheets in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(d) are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. Any amended replacement drawing sheet should include all of the figures appearing on the immediate prior version of the sheet, even if only one figure is being amended. The figure or figure number of an amended drawing should not be labeled as "amended." If a drawing figure is to be canceled, the appropriate figure must be removed from the replacement sheet, and where necessary, the remaining figures must be renumbered and appropriate changes made to the brief description of the several views of the drawings for consistency. Additional replacement sheets may be necessary to show the renumbering of the remaining figures. The replacement sheet(s) should be labeled "Replacement Sheet" in the page header (as per 37 CFR 1.84(c)) so as not to obstruct any portion of the drawing figures. If the changes are not accepted by the examiner, the applicant will be notified and informed of any required corrective action in the next Office action. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

Claim Objections

2. Claims 13-32 are objected to because of the following informalities: the words "data base" are suggested to be changed to the word "database" for typo errors. Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 1-32 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Katsumaru et al (US 5,625,675) hereinafter referred as Katsumaru in view of Agraharam et al (US 6,085,231) hereinafter referred as Agraharam.

Regarding claim 1, Katsumaru discloses a Voice Mail Communication System.

A PBX 4, Fig. 1 (*a circuit switching network*);

A Voice Stream/Voice Packet Converter 32, Fig. 2 (*a media conversion port*) which receives a message from the telephone 6, Fig. 1 (*the subscriber*) through the PBX 4, Fig. 1, (*through the circuit switching network*), col. 6 lines 28-31 and converts it to a packet format, col. 6 lines 28-31 (*and packetizes the message*).

Katsumaru does not disclose expressly *a conversion port which converts the packetized message into a storing form and a storing port and a storing port which stores the message converted into the storing form.*

Agraharam discloses a message converter 107, Fig. 1, (*a conversion port*) which converts the voice packet to a voice-to-text file to be stored, col. 2, lines 53-61 (*which converts the packetized message into a storing form*) and an email server 117, Fig. 1, (*a storing port*) which stores the voice-to-text file, col. 3, lines 18-29 (*which stores the message converted into the storing form*).

Katsumaru and Agraharam are analogous art because they are from a similar problem solving area of delivering voice mail in a telecommunication system.

At the time of the invention, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to combine the voice mail system of Agraharam with Katsumaru.

The suggestion/motivation for doing so would have been to provide a user with a mean to retrieve his/her voice mail through his/her email remotely.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to combine Agraharam with Katsumaru to obtain the invention as specified in claim 1.

Regarding claim 2, this claim has similar limitations of claim 1. Therefore, it is rejected over Katsumaru in view of Agraharam for the same reasons set forth in the rejection of claim 1. Katsumaru also discloses a computer A from a packet network, 1a, Fig. 1 leaves a packetized voice message for a computer B, 1b, Fig. 1, col. 8, lines 44-49 (*the packetized message from the*

Art Unit: 2665

packet switching network). The packetized voice message is then can be feeded into Agrapharam's message converter 107, Fig. 1 to be stored.

Regarding claim 3, this claim has similar limitations of claim 2. Therefore, it is rejected over Katsumaru in view of Agrapharam for the same reasons set forth in the rejection of claim 2.

Regarding claim 4, this claim has similar limitations of claim 2. Therefore, it is rejected over Katsumaru in view of Agrapharam for the same reasons set forth in the rejection of claim 2. Agrapharam also discloses an e-mail server 117, Fig. 1 that stores emails (*e-mail attachment-file form*) and connects to the Internet 109, Fig. 1, col. 3 lines 25-29.

Regarding claim 5, Katsumaru discloses the Voice Mail Communication System (*The Integrated messaging system*) wherein the message is a voice, col. 6 lines 28-31.

Regarding claims 6, 7, 8, these claims have similar limitations of claim 5. Therefore, they are rejected over Katsumaru in view of Agrapharam for the same reasons set forth in the rejection of claim 5.

Regarding claim 9, Katsumaru discloses the message is stored in a mail box 11, Fig. 1 (*a telephone answering machine*) when the subscriber does not answer a phone, col. 7, lines 44-50 and col. 8, lines 10-11.

Art Unit: 2665

Regarding claims 10, 11, 12, these claims have similar limitations of claim 9.

Therefore, they are rejected over Katsumaru in view of Agrapharam for the same reasons set forth in the rejection of claim 9.

Regarding claims 13, Agrapharam discloses a database 111, Fig. 1 which contains the subscriber's telephone number and the related email address, col. 2, lines 43-67 and col. 3, lines 1-15.

Regarding claim 14, this claim has similar limitations of claim 13. Therefore, it is rejected over Katsumaru in view of Agrapharam for the same reasons set forth in the rejection of claim 13.

Regarding claims 15, 16, 17 and 18, these claims have similar limitations of claims 5 and 13 in combined. Therefore, they are rejected over Katsumaru in view of Agrapharam for the same reasons set forth in the rejections of claims 5 and 13.

Regarding claims 19, 20, 21 and 22, these claims have similar limitations of claims 9 and 13 in combined. Therefore, they are rejected over Katsumaru in view of Agrapharam for the same reasons set forth in the rejections of claims 9 and 13.

Regarding claims 23, 24, 25 and 26, these claims have similar limitations of claim 13.

Therefore, they are rejected over Katsumaru in view of Agrapharam for the same reasons set

Art Unit: 2665

forth in the rejection of claim 13. Katsumaru also discloses a connection controller 30, Fig. 2 (*a system control port*) which controls each port in the system, col. 6, lines 17-27. The connection controller 30, Fig. 2, is capable of connecting to the PBX (*the circuit switching network*) by a common channel line, and the Voice Stream Converter 32, Fig. 2, (*the media conversion port*) which is part of the Voice Mail Exchanger 3 (NNI), Fig. 2 wherein it is interfacing between a circuit switching and a packet switching network, col. 5, lines 28-32.

Regarding claims 27 and 28, these claims have similar limitations of claims 5 and 23 in combined. Therefore, they are rejected over Katsumaru in view of Agraharam for the same reasons set forth in the rejections of claims 5 and 23.

Regarding claims 29, 30, 31 and 32, these claims have similar limitations of claims 5, 9 and 23 in combined. Therefore, they are rejected over Katsumaru in view of Agraharam for the same reasons set forth in the rejections of claims 5, 9 and 23.

Conclusion

5. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Narasimhan et al (US 6,597,688); Picard et al (US 6,233,318); Feuer (US 2003/0095539) are cited to show an Integrated Messaging System, which is considered pertinent to the claimed invention.

Art Unit: 2665

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Lee Khuong whose telephone number is 571-272-3157. The examiner can normally be reached on 9AM - 5PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Huy Vu can be reached on 571-272-3155. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

7. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


Lee T. Khuong
Examiner
Art Unit 2665

DUCH HO
PRIMARY EXAMINER



12-15-04